

Description of Request: I received an earmark of \$381,000 for the Brain Health and Repair Project at the University of Texas at Dallas which involves a unique multi-disciplinary collaboration among a talented team of scientists with expertise ranging from cognitive neuroscience, neurology, biomedical engineering, brain imaging, to those advancing brain repair treatments. The Brain Health and Repair Project takes a comprehensive approach to address some of the most pressing public health issues related to brain health. New evidence from brain science reveals that more can be done to prevent and detect injuries, as well as to repair the brain than modern medicine thought possible only a few years ago. UT Dallas has the largest number of cognitive brain scientists in Texas with specific expertise focused on advancing sensitive measurements of lasting impact of Traumatic Brain Injury on cognition, social, and brain function and developing effective methods to repair the brain given appropriate type, levels and intensity of stimulation.

MRS. IRENE DAY-COMER

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2009*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana's most talented and most admired citizens, Irene Day-Comer. An extraordinary soloist, Irene's serene vocals touched the hearts and lifted the spirits of countless residents of Northwest Indiana and beyond, and through her remarkable gift, she served her community in a way that very few people can. Unfortunately, Mrs. Day-Comer passed away on Monday, February 2, 2009, at the age of 86, but her music will forever remain in the hearts and spirits of those fortunate enough to have heard her sing.

Born in the rural farming community of Marks, Mississippi, Irene's family, like many African American families at the time, fled the South in search of better opportunities in more industrialized areas of the country. After arriving in Northwest Indiana, Irene's family made their home in East Chicago, Indiana. Born into a family of deep spiritual faith and religious conviction, it was at Antioch Baptist Church in East Chicago where Mrs. Day-Comer's extraordinary gift and love for sacred music would emerge. At Antioch, she was a member of the Junior Red Circle and Baptist Training Circle and was active in various choirs and ensembles. During her younger years, Irene attended Columbus Elementary School and Washington High School, where she was a member of the highly esteemed Paul Robeson Glee Club. Encouraged by her mentor and pastor, the late Dr. Vincent McCutcheon, Mrs. Day-Comer went on to study at the Moody Bible Institute and the American Baptist Theological Seminary Extension in Chicago.

By the age of eight years old, Irene's passion for music and unquestionable talent was already clear to those who heard her pristine voice. This passion would carry on to her adult life, where she would continue to serve her community through her songs of faith, hope, and inspiration. She gained acclaim from the likes of Oprah Winfrey, who heard her sing

after speaking at Antioch in 1981. After this, Reverend McCutcheon and a group of local churches were able to raise enough funds for Irene and pianist, Marilyn Hairston, to record her historic debut album, *Irene Day—He's Everywhere*, in 1982. This outstanding compilation of sacred songs allowed even more people the joyous opportunity to hear her exceptional voice, and after being re-released in 2002 in the wake of the tragedy of September 11, an entirely new generation was introduced to her uplifting spirit.

A woman whose life and talent spread far beyond the borders of Northwest Indiana, Mrs. Day-Comer received many accolades for her artistry and her service to the community. In 1982, Irene was honored by the City of East Chicago for her contributions to the community, and July 8 was proclaimed Irene Day Day. In 1985, she was recipient of the prestigious Monroe-Master Dedication Commission Award bestowed by the African Methodist Episcopal Church for her efforts to aid and inspire others. Irene was also honored nationally in 1982 following the release of her album with commendations from the Congressional Black Caucus, the late Congressman Adam Benjamin, Jr., Senator Richard Lugar, and former Vice President Dan Quayle.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring a great American artist and citizen, Mrs. Irene Day-Comer, for sharing her outstanding talents with the people of Indiana's First Congressional District and beyond. Irene Day-Comer's remarkable gift brought joy and hope to all who listened to her songs, and I ask that you join me in remembering her today.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. BOB INGLIS**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2009*

Mr. INGLIS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of HR 1105, Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009.

Requesting Member: Congressman BOB INGLIS

Bill Number: HR 1105 FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act—Energy and Water—Department of Energy

Account: Biomass and Biorefinery Systems R&D

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Clemson University

Address of Requesting Entity: 209 Sikes Hall, Clemson, South Carolina 29634

Description of Request: The purpose of the request is to provide an earmark of \$951,500 to the Clemson University Cellulosic Biofuel Plant project. Cellulosic ethanol comes from breaking down the lignin and hemi-cellulose shell in order to access plant sugars for fermentation into renewable fuel. It is estimated that cellulose conversion to ethanol can produce 800–1000 gallons of ethanol per acre (compared to 416/acre for corn). Capturing 20% of the state's gasoline fuel market through bio-ethanol would build a \$1Bn industry. In order to accomplish that goal, South Carolina must have the capacity to produce

700M gallons of ethanol/year. Based on recent studies of the economic impact of corn ethanol plans in the Midwest, 700M gal/year of bio-ethanol capacity could lead to \$1.5Bn in capital investments, create 10,000 new jobs, add \$2Bn to the local economy and increase local and state taxes by \$20M. Approximately \$50,000 (5%) will go towards site utilities/grading; \$680,000 (71%) will go towards building structure; and the remaining \$228,000 (24%) will go towards process equipment, support utility systems and construction fees; with multiple funding sources in subsequent years completing the project.

Requesting Member: Congressman BOB INGLIS

Bill Number: HR 1105 FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act—Energy and Water—Department of Energy

Account: Science

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Clemson University

Address of Requesting Entity: 209 Sikes Hall, Clemson, South Carolina 29634

Description of Request: The purpose of the request is to provide an earmark of \$1,427,250 to The Clemson University Cyberinstitute (CUCI) project which will assist research universities around the State of South Carolina to perform scientific research in nanotechnology, bioinformatics/computational biology, environment/ecology and global climate change. The project links South Carolina to a nation-wide backbone of world-class university research, industry partners and cutting-edge technology entrepreneurs. CUCI will serve as a conduit for a virtual research campus that brings together cyber resources and strengths from each of South Carolina's research institutions, including Clemson University, the Medical University of South Carolina, and the University of South Carolina. Approximately \$250,000 (18%) will go towards network connectivity; \$200,000 (14%) will go towards network redundancy; \$250,000 (18%) will go towards high performance computing; \$250,000 (18%) will go towards data storage; \$200,000 (14%) will go towards visualization resources and \$250,000 (18%) for personnel management support, with multiple funding sources in subsequent years completing the project.

Requesting Member: Congressman BOB INGLIS

Bill Number: HR 1105 FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act—Financial Services and General Government—Small Business Administration

Account: Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Union, Mayor Bruce Morgan

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Sharpe Avenue, Union, South Carolina 29379

Description of Request: The purpose of the request is to provide an earmark of \$100,000 to build a facility for world-class robotics training that would serve manufacturing facilities in the surrounding counties. The project will provide significant technical training in a state, local and private partnership to meet the needs of an existing and growing robotics industry. It is a critical focus in an economically distressed area to diversify from a shrinking textile employment toward higher paying, higher skilled technical jobs. The facility would offer specific training (hydraulics, pneumatics, electronics, robotic software and diagnostics) for the automotive, aerospace, rail, and super